



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Wind Cave National Park

RR 1, Box 190
Hot Springs SD 57747

605-745-4600 phone
605-745-4207 fax

Wind Cave National Park News Release

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For Immediate Release
Tom Farrell 605-745-4600
tom_farrell@nps.gov

Environmental Assessment for Wind Cave National Park Parking Lot Reconstruction Available for Public Review

Superintendent Linda Stoll announced today that Wind Cave National Park is soliciting public comments of an environmental assessment prepared for a proposed reconstruction of the Visitor Center parking lot. This thirty-day comment period runs from May 6 to June 4.

The proposed plan calls for the protection of the cave system, portions of which are located directly beneath the parking lot, from pollution contained in stormwater runoff. To accomplish this, the existing asphalt surface would be removed and replaced with concrete. A stormwater collection and treatment system would capture and treat contaminated runoff from the parking lot, and treated stormwater would be discharged, through an infiltration trench, into the natural drainage of Wind Cave Canyon. The proposed action does not include expansion of available parking capacity.

Superintendent Stoll invites the public to attend an informal open house at the Wind Cave Visitor Center on Wednesday, May 15, from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. to discuss the plan with park staff and to comment on the alternatives.

Copies of the Environmental Assessment can be found on-line at www.nps.gov/wica beginning May 6. In addition, printed copies are available for review at the Custer and Hot Springs libraries and at the Wind Cave National Park Visitor Center. The public is invited to comment on the proposed plan by writing to Park Superintendent; Wind Cave National Park; RR 1, Box 190; Hot Springs, SD 57747 or via e-mail to: <wica_planning@nps.gov>. Comments will be accepted for 30 days and should be addressed to the Superintendent at one of the above addresses by June 4, 2002.

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